

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments is courteously solicited.

Claims 6-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ning et al. (USPN 6183875B1).

The invention as claimed in the amended claim 6 is directed to an aluminum/ceramic bonding substrate comprising: a ceramic substrate; and a solid aluminum member having a purity of 99.5 % or more, said solid aluminum member being bonded directly to at least one side of said ceramic substrate by heating the solid aluminum member and the ceramic substrate after causing the solid aluminum member to contact the ceramic substrate, wherein a peel strength between said aluminum member and said ceramic substrate is 49 N/cm or more.

Ning et al. teach an electronic circuit substrate prepared by directly solidifying molten aluminum or aluminum alloy on a ceramic substrate. That is, the electronic circuit substrate of Ning et al. is produced by solidifying molten aluminum or the like after causing the molten aluminum or the like to contact the ceramic substrate. However, Ning et al. fail to suggest or disclose that a solid aluminum member, such as an aluminum plate, is bonded directly to a ceramic substrate by heating the aluminum member and the ceramic substrate after causing the aluminum member to contact the ceramic substrate.

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that all of the claims as pending are now in condition for allowance and an early indication of same is respectfully requested.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would

be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,
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By _____

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on June 2, 2005.


Rachel Piscitelli